

Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Ulster County, NY

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Ulster County was selected to receive an assessment grant. The targeted site is in an area of the City of Newburgh that needs revitalization. Newburgh, which has a population of 28,259, is in a state Empire Zone and is a federally designated Enterprise Community. Erosion of traditional manufacturing industries in the Mid-Hudson Valley, which includes Ulster County, has resulted in major job losses. Newburgh has been particularly hard hit. Poverty rates in Newburgh exceed 26 percent, and unemployment is nearly 12 percent. Assessment and reuse of an abandoned gas station will allow an existing business to expand rather than move from the city. Revitalizing the site also will enhance the construction of low-income housing nearby. Both objectives are consistent with regional



Assessment Grant



\$75,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected Ulster County for a brownfields assessment grant. The county plans to assess an old, vacant gas station, one of many small inner-city brownfields sites that are not economically feasible to redevelop without direct municipal support. Grant funds also will be used for community involvement.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team 212-637-4314

http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/brownfields/

Grant Recipient: Ulster County, NY 845-340-3642

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, Ulster County has received brownfields funding for an assessment grant.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

priorities to create jobs accessible to low-income families. The county will continue to engage community stakeholders in reuse decisions.